

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 16060 060837Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-09
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 DLOS-09 /139 W
-----120992 060841Z /21

R 060819Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0991
INFO USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 16060

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, TOCY, ESTC, CH, US, JA, KS
SUBJECT: REVIEW OF USG POLICY TOWARD OIL EXPLORATION IN
JAPAN/KOREA JOINT DEVELOPMENT ZONE

REF: (1)STATE 212099, (2)SEOUL 7489, (3)PEKING 2695,
(4)TOKYO 12569

1. WE AGREE WITH USLO THAT WHILE RISK OF PRC INTERVENTION
TO HALT EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES IN JAPAN-ROK JOINT DE-
VELOPMENT ZONE (JDZ) STILL EXISTS, IT HAS DIMINISHED.
WE NOTE THAT PRC PROTESTED DIRECTLY TO JAPANESE BEFORE
INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF TREATY
WERE EXCHANGED; FOLLOWING JUNE 22 EXCHANGE, PRC MERELY
REITERATED PROTEST THROUGH NCNA. RECENT PRC REQUEST TO
JAPAN EX-IM BANK FOR LOANS, AND APPARENT PRC DESIRE,
EVIDENCED IN TENG'S COMMENTS TO SONODA RE SENKAKUS, TO
DAMPEN POTENTIALLY CONTENTIOUS TERRITORIAL ISSUES IN
INTEREST OF FURTHERING ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL COOPERA-
TION ON BROAD FRONT WOULD ALSO SEEM TO REDUCE LIKELIHOOD
OF AGGRESSIVE PRC ACTIONS TO HALT EXPLORATION.

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2. IN PARTICULAR WE FEEL PEKING WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO
JEOPARDIZE ITS MANIFEST INTEREST IN COOPERATING WITH U.S.
AND JAPANESE COMPANIES IN DEVELOPING ITS OWN OFFSHORE OIL
AND GAS RESOURCES BY TAKING TOO BELLIGERENT A STAND.
MIGHT IT NOT BE POSSIBLE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT HAVING
REITERATED ITS CLAIM TO THE JDZ AREA, IT WOULD ACCEPT
SOME SORT OF COMPENSATION FROM THE "VIOLATORS, PERHAPS

IN THE NATURE OF ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION.
WHILE TEXACO'S FOUR AMERICAN SISTERS MAY NOT BE WILLING
TO USE THEIR LEVERAGE ON HER BEHALF, TEXACO ITSELF COULD
PERHAPS EXPLORE POSSIBILITY OF SOME SORT OF UNDERSTAND-
ING WITH PEKING, E.G., OPERATING IN THE JDZ THROUGH A
DUMMY.

3. IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE ROC CLAIMS TO AREAS OF ZONE,
SUGGEST DEPARTMENT REPEAT TRAFFIC TO EMBASSY TAIPEI FOR
ITS COMMENT.

4. TEXACO'S ALLISON HAS NOT YET CALLED ON EMBASSY.
MANSFIELD

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NNN

Message Attributes

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